Supply of Measles Vaccines in PHCs

*276. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on account of tender delays, supply of measles vaccines ran out of stock at Primary Health Centres in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to boost its supplies to prevent measles deaths?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) During 2003-04, some shortages were reported at a few Primary Health Centres (PHCs) in Chattisgarh and NCT of Delhi. These States managed to arrange supply of vaccines by adjustment of stocks from within the State.

The Government has taken following steps to ensure timely supplies of vaccines during the current year:—

(i) Making available the vaccines at PHCs from the buffer stock of last year's supply;

(ii) Placing advance supply order of 25% of this year's requirement; and

Strict monitoring of availability of the Measles vaccines at Districts and PHCs.

Spurious Medicines

*277. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether spurious and counterfeit medicines are prevalent in the market in an alarming proportion;

(b) if so, the reasons for not checking entry of such medicines; and